



CENTER SCENE

ALMRS BBS

The ALMRS BBS is an electronic bulletin board system set up to exchange information about implementation of the ALMRS/Modernization Project and related issues. Bulletin board users can ask questions and receive answers from Project personnel, read previous questions and answers, and leave messages for other users.

The bulletin board is currently available to any BLM employee with access to a PC or terminal, via modem, X.25 Wide Area Network, or Ethernet. The BBS is also accessible with a UNIX workstation. New users must first register their names and locations with the Service Center in order to log onto the system. Currently, there are over 225 individual and shared "accounts" or users who have proper access codes to log onto the system.

Topics addressed on the bulletin board included administrative, budgetary, and pro-

cedural issues; capacity planning; hardware, software, telecommunications; and training. In most cases, questions are answered by subject-matter experts on the Project staff. Questions on current system procedures and user problems are referred to an appropriate system expert for direct consultation over the phone.

Questions and answers from the BBS are published in the quarterly updates of the ALMRS/Modernization Implementation Plan for Administrative Systems. For further information contact:

- Your telecommunications manager
- Dave Dunwoodie, ALMRS/Modernization Project, SC-313, phone (303) 236-6042
- ALMRS/Modernization Project, SC-313, fax (303) 236-0831, Attn: Mel Valerio

Update on the ALMRS INFO-FAX

The ALMRS INFO-FAX was evaluated in January and, except for some equipment difficulties that have since been corrected, was considered a success. The INFO-FAX was established on a trial basis to receive and respond to questions about the ALMRS/Modernization and related projects. During November and December, 35 questions from the field were answered through the INFO-FAX.

The Service Center Director has decided to continue the ALMRS INFO-FAX on a permanent basis during the implementation of the ALMRS/Modernization Project. The ALMRS INFO-FAX number is (303) 236-1115.

A DE-TOWERING ACHIEVEMENT

Two Denver Federal Center monuments disappeared in January. Gone are the water towers that, collectively, stored 300,000 gallons of water. These landmarks of an earlier era, when the Federal Center was a munitions plant during World War II, are now in permanent retirement.

The towers were taken down because they had begun to leak in recent years. An engineering study, conducted in 1989, indicated that the towers were near the end of their useful life and should be replaced. The towers have been replaced by a 500,000-gallon, underground, reinforced-concrete reservoir and pumpstation (Building 74A). The reservoir has dual compartments that allow half of the reservoir to be drained and serviced without disrupting the Federal Center's water supply. The underground tank has been covered by a concrete pad that serves as a basketball court just west of the Wellness Center (Building 75).

The water in this reservoir, which comes from the Moffat Water Treatment Plant north of the Federal Center, is first stored in another 500,000-gallon underground reservoir located underneath

Building 7. Thus, at any given moment, there are 1 million gallons, or 8 million pounds, of water stored beneath the grounds of the Federal Center. Needless to say, we're not going to run out of water anytime soon.

Road Paving Plans

After being closed for several months, the road to the Post Office and Alameda is open once again. However, this road over the "triple-barrel box culvert" is not due to be paved until mid-April. Before then, enough fill dirt will be added to level the roadway. In addition, retaining walls will be built so drivers won't go careening over the edge into the gulch on wet or icy days.



IRS WORKSHOPS

CASU and the IRS community outreach program will be providing the following tax workshops for Federal employees in the Mountain View Room of the Denver Learning Center in Building 53:

Tuesday, Feb. 23

- Session I 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.
II 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
III 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.*

Wednesday, Feb. 24

- Session IV 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.*
V 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

*Focus will be on retirement issues.

Please clear your attendance with your supervisor and make reservations by calling Cherie Marvel at the CASU Office at 236-9829.



ARMING YOURSELF AGAINST CRIME

Service Center employees recently learned new ways to protect themselves, their homes, and their families against crime. The tips and techniques were presented by Cliff McKie of the safety awareness organization Citizens Against Crime.

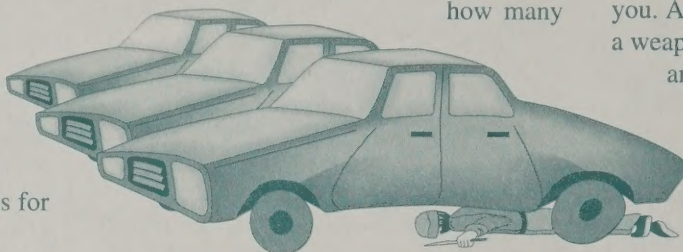
According to McKie, three conditions must be present for a crime to occur: criminal intent, vulnerability, and opportunity. Though we can't do much about criminal intent and we are all somewhat vulnerable, we can reduce opportunities for crime to occur.

Most of us think of crime as something that happens to other people. Consequently, by not preparing ourselves, we give criminals their number one advantage over us—the element of surprise. So it is extremely important that you play the “what if” game and make plans before you become a victim.

About 85 percent of all crime takes place in or around our cars. There are four key actions that can reduce your risk: 1) scan the area to see that no one is underneath or around your car, 2) get your keys in hand before you go to your car, 3) check the back seat and floor before you get in,

and 4) lock the door once you are in.

If attacked, McKie advises that you scream something (like “Fire!”) that will get attention, and run to well lit areas or areas where other people are present. McKie says it is surprising how many



people don't scream because they fear being embarrassed if they are wrong about the situation.

Weapons change the rules. If you are grabbed from behind, don't do anything until you know if the person has a deadly weapon. If they do, try to avoid making the person nervous. Buy yourself time. The most important thing to do is to start talking—this will calm you down and make them see you as a real person. Ask what they are going to do to you. If you feel you are in danger, do the unexpected—throw up, fake a seizure, go to the bathroom, or

faint. Experts say fainting is the best thing you can do.

If you must fight for your life, McKie says you must fight to incapacitate. Fighting to hurt will only anger the criminal and may cause them to react by coming after you. And if you choose to keep and/or carry a weapon for your protection, be sure you and everyone who might need it knows how to use it and is prepared to use it. Also, keep the weapon handy—if you can't get to it, it isn't any good!

Chemical sprays, such as mace, can be a good alternative. Although some are more effective than others, they will not permanently harm the criminal, but they will allow you time to get away. According to McKie, these sprays have a shelf life, so be aware of their expiration dates and test fire them periodically.

We all hope that we will never become victims of crime; however, it is best to be prepared. If you find yourself in a dangerous situation, don't give up—try anything to put the odds in your favor. Always remember that you have choices—choices that can save your life.

WE NEED STORIES!

Center Scene is *your* newsletter, and if you have a story that you think would be of interest to your fellow employees, we want to know about it! We strive to keep the newsletter interesting and informative, and are constantly looking for new stories to capture the attention of our readers. Please send stories to Linda Hill, SC-140, or call her at 236-4238.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIES



Acting Associate Service Center Director Ed Dettman shares his wishes with Santa (BLM retiree John Brewer) during the Service Center's Christmas party as Mrs. Santa (Lee Krebs) looks on. Special thanks go to the Service Center Social Organization for sponsoring the event, which was held at Jubilation.



Santa and his elves prepare to make deliveries for the Santa Project. Front row (l-r): Richard Banks, Gwen Rush, Amanda Price, and Barb Guest. Middle row (l-r): Barb Kitt, Lynne Price, Sharon Erickson, Norma Reitsma, Virginia Crosby, Bruce Van Haveren, and Dick Rush. Back row (l-r): C.J. Van Haveren, Santa (John Brewer), Jolene Rush, and Al Leyer. Not pictured: Gwen Moore and Julie Lewis.

PERSONNEL NEWS

New Employees:

William J. Clinton

Separations:

Lisa Drebenstedt, Office Automation Clerk, SC-310
Sandra Hale, Budget Analyst, SC-130
David Palmer, Supv. Operating Accountant, SC-616